

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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K'U-ERH-LO IRRIGATION SYSTEM PROJECTED

The Sinkiang Provincial Irrigation Department is considering development of fertile uncultivated land along the northwest shore of Pao-t'ou-hu below Sha-i-li-k'o, which is 38 kilometers southwest of K'ung-ch'iao Ho in K'u-erh-lo Hsien.

Several unsuccessful undertakings to irrigate the area have been attempted in the past by local citizens and by the people of Wei-li, Lun-t'ai, and K'u-erh-lo hsien. Reluctant to permit such a rich region to remain unproductive, they have appealed for governmental cooperation on an irrigation project. A survey of the locality was made in December 1948 by the Yen-ch'i Irrigation Engineering Bureau. An effective irrigation system would supply water to about 15,000 mou 16.6 mou equal one acre of farm lands. If it is possible to discharge water at 2.5 cubic feet per second, 20,000-30,000 mou would benefit.

A plan for the construction of a conduit about 15-16 kilometers long from the K'uang-ch'iao Ho is reported to have been devised by the Irrigation Department. According to a department member, preparatory work will commence immediately upon approval by the provincial government. Barring financial difficulties, the stretch of land along Sha-i-li-k'o should be converted into usefulness this year.

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- 1 -

**CLASSIFICATION**

**RESTRICTED**

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